



# THE GRANITE NEWS

6TH FEB. 2022

VOLUME 16

ISSUE 4

WHITEHEADS CREEK • TERIP TERIP • CAVEAT • RUFFY • HIGHLANDS • HUGHES CREEK

## Welcome, Wumindjika and G'day

Many thanks to those readers who have enquired about sponsoring an ad on the back page of this great weekly newsletter. For those of you still thinking about it, this is how it works.

The previous sponsors, from 2021, have the first opportunity to renew their ad for 2022 and if they decide not to, or haven't paid \$250 by a certain date, then any other interested parties are given the opportunity to advertise their wares, or altruistically support TGN in the forthcoming year. If you are still thinking about this may I suggest that you contact the Editor - [editor@tgn.org.au](mailto:editor@tgn.org.au) ASAP as any spare ads are offered on a first come basis, with a waiting list in play. Thanks for continuing/considering supporting this great community communique.

Until the next issue of TGN... **Pauline**

And Kenny Koala ... was looking forward to gathering at the HCCC lunch

## HCCC News

### Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative (HCCC)

#### AGM and lunch

TCC (Tablelands Community Centre) at Ruffy  
12 noon - Sunday February 20th



Sue van Buuren will present a first look at our new Communications Platform, showing us the new web-page, history section, resources pages and more!

**AGM** - brief reports and elections, (no need for anxiety-there are people waiting in the wings waiting to be elected!).

**Lunch** - share a light lunch with friends.

All are invited and welcome, however to comply with regulations we do need to follow the Covid rules.

Please let us know if you are coming and if you have any dietary requirements. Email or text HCCC secretary, Justus at [jjmhagen@yahoo.com.au](mailto:jjmhagen@yahoo.com.au) or text 0427 524473

RSVPs by the morning of Thursday 17th Feb., thanks.

Please note: Thursday evening is the deadline for inclusion in the following week's TGN although this will depend on space and time constraints—thanks



Hughes Creek  
Catchment  
Collaborative  
**Landcare**

Feedback? - [editor@tgn.org.au](mailto:editor@tgn.org.au)

or to subscribe on-line go to

[www.highlands.org.au](http://www.highlands.org.au)

**The Granite News** is an open but moderated community forum.

Readers are encouraged to contribute articles and we also encourage you to air your views on things that interest or concern you within our community.

We certainly welcome feedback from you, positive or otherwise on anything that is published in

**The Granite News**

Let's  
laugh

Despite his parents' reassurances, Bill couldn't shake the nagging suspicion he might be adopted.



"A true champion is not the one who wins the tournaments. It's about purpose."

**Dylan Alcott**







**2022 Australian of the Year**

Along with a heap of other awards - 3 Olympic gold medals & multiple tennis tournaments including the Grand Slam!

Month	Highlands	Ruffy
January	60.2 mm	104 mm
2022 Total	60.2 mm	104 mm
January	9 Days	8 Days

## Community Notices

**WHAT'S ON — February & March 2022** NB: COVID—double vaccinated will apply to all events

 <p><b>Friday 11th February</b> <b>@ 6.30pm</b></p>	<p><b><i>DRINKS ON THE DECK</i></b> <span style="float: right;"><b>at Highlands Community Hall</b></span></p> <p>Starts at 6.30pm bring food to share for a meal together and catch up with friends old and new. All welcome, especially new faces. Gold coin donation to cover power.</p>
 <p><b>Monday 14th February</b> <b>@ 11am</b></p>	<p><b><i>HIGHLANDS SPINNING CLUB</i></b></p> <p>The Highlands Spinning Club will get together in 2022 at the same place—450 Caveat-Dropmore Rd, @ the same time and with the same good company! BYO lunch and great tea &amp; coffee will be provided.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Enquiries? - contact Jan 5790 4361</b></p>
 <p><b>Saturday 19th February</b> <b>from 10-12</b></p>	<p><b><i>HIGHLANDS BLACK MARKET</i></b> <span style="float: right;"><b>at 94 Old Highlands Rd</b></span></p> <p>Bring along your excess produce, buy local and learn from each other. <b>Enquiries? - Clare 0428 969366</b></p> <p><b>NB: Please come only if you have had your second Covid vaccination, thanks</b></p>
 <p><b>Sunday 20th February</b> <b>@ noon</b></p>	<p><b><i>HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT COLLABORATIVE MEETING</i></b> <span style="float: right;"><b>at TCC @ Ruffy</b></span></p> <p>The next meeting of the HCCC will commence with a light lunch, prior to the AGM and a short general meeting being held. This will be followed by an informative presentation outlining the progress to date of the new HCCC communications' system. All welcome.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Enquiries? - contact Justus 0427 524473</b></p>
<p><b>Thursday 24th February</b> <b>@ 5.30pm</b></p>	<p><b><i>SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS</i></b> <span style="float: right;"><b>at Caveat Church</b></span></p> <p>All people in the district are welcome, pink note (\$5) donation towards a BBQ, BYO and chat</p>
<p><b>Sunday 27th February</b> <b>noon for 1pm lunch</b></p>	<p><b><i>YEA ARTS Inc. present the Improv Comedy 'CLUB RAFFLE'</i></b> <span style="float: right;"><b>at Highlands Hall</b></span></p> <p>Come along for a fun afternoon, with yummy food, excellent wines and an entertaining participatory time with Jim and Glenn and their take on the AFL. Bookings essential, see TGN 16.2 for more details.</p>
<p><b>Sunday 27th February</b> <b>2-6pm</b></p>	<p><b><i>YEA SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY DAY</i></b> <span style="float: right;"><b>at Yea Recreation Reserve</b></span></p> <p>Supported by RACV and 2030Yea this is a day to discover more about alternative energy, electric vehicles and watch a movie powered totally by solar energy. See p. 4 for more details.</p>
 <p><b>Friday 4th March</b> <b>@ 6pm</b></p>	<p><b><i>RUFFY FIRST FRIDAY of the MONTH BBQ</i></b> <span style="float: right;"><b>at Tablelands Community Centre</b></span></p> <p>It's time to put the FUN back into Friday nights! <b>Enquires: 0427 690970 or <a href="mailto:tccruffy@gmail.com">tccruffy@gmail.com</a></b></p>
 <p><b>Every Thursday</b> <b>6—7.30pm</b></p>	<p><b><i>YOUR SURYA YOGA CLASSES in 2022</i></b> <span style="float: right;"><b>at Highlands Community Hall</b></span></p> <p>Come along to Sandra's yoga classes in Highlands. Bookings essential via website <a href="http://www.yoursurya.com">www.yoursurya.com</a></p>
<p><b>Every second</b> <b>Wednesday 10.30-12.30</b></p>	<p><b><i>MURRINDINDI MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE</i></b> <span style="float: right;"><b>at Highlands Community Hall</b></span></p> <p>The Mobile Library visits the TGN area, based at the Highlands Hall every fortnight. Why not pop in??</p> <p><b>YAY! The Mobile Library will be back at Highlands in February on these dates - 9th &amp; 23rd.</b></p>
<p><b>Every Monday</b> <b>@ 10 am</b></p>	<p><b><i>ONE TO ONE WELL-BEING CENTRE EUROA</i></b> <span style="float: right;"><b>at Tablelands Community Centre</b></span></p> <p>Qigong classes, Shiatsu Massage, Counselling and Psychotherapy.</p> <p><b>NB: Qigong has returned on January 10.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>For bookings or further info contact Vivien 5795 3349 or 0405 612400</b></p>

### FOR SALE

Heritage nursing mother's chair in very good condition.

It rocks beautifully and has velvet upholstery.

**NOTE - new price \$150!**

Contact Pauline  
**0408 246 308**



### Letter to the Editor

Dear Pauline,

It is with regret that I pass on news of my father Colin.

Colin is currently in hospital with cancer of the shoulder which has spread to various parts of his body.

The prognosis is not good; however the Doctors have his pain under control and he is in good spirits.

He would like to extend his kind wishes to you & your subscribers, many of whom he has met and enjoyed their company over the years. With best regards

**Jeremy Dowzer**

\* Readers may remember Colin's informative contributions to TGN in 2019, others will know him personally as a courteous gentleman. **Ed.**

## What's amazing about Wetlands?

World Wetlands Day has come and gone in 2022, but what is so important about Wetlands and why do we need to preserve and protect them?

Wetlands are valuable for the environment, food production, our culture and recreation. A healthy wetlands has a rich natural diversity of plants and animals. Wetlands may support threatened species such as the dugong, brolga, and green and golden bell frog, as well as iconic plants such as the river red gum. Migrating waterbirds visit Australia's wetlands every year from as far away as China and Alaska.

Wetlands provide connections in the landscape so that plants and animals can spread from place to place and maintain their populations. Wetlands systems also remove sediment and nutrients, acting like kidneys, for our water systems. Wetlands provide protection from the effects of extreme weather events such as coastal storm surges and floods. They even store carbon, helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Wetlands support Australia's primary industries. Saltmarshes, mangroves and seagrass wetlands are the nurseries for our fish and seafood and some wetlands provide water for irrigation and farm animals. Healthy wetlands are also places of recreation and provide opportunities to enjoy some of Australia's natural wonders.

Swamps, marshes, billabongs, lakes, saltmarshes, mudflats, mangroves, coral reefs, fens and peat bogs are all wetlands! Australia even has underground wetlands. Almost anywhere that can be wet is a wetlands as long as it has plants, animals and soil types that are adapted to wet conditions.

Water in wetlands can be still or flowing; it can be fresh, salty or brackish. Inland rivers and coastal or marine areas with water up to 6m deep at low tide are also classified as wetlands. Wetlands do not have to be continuously wet! Many inland wetlands are dry for years at a time until the floods come.

Wetlands can be natural, artificial or a mixture of both. A farm dam & a wetland constructed in an urban area to catch stormwater are both wetlands.

Australia's wetlands provide habitat for waterbirds including waders and shorebirds. Some birds live in Australia all year round, while other migrate thousands of kms to visit for a few months each year. Migratory birds fly along routes known as flyways, which link chains of wetlands where travelling birds stop to eat and rest on their long migrations. Australia is part of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway corridor.

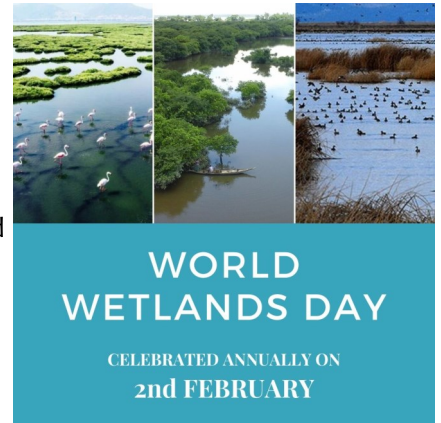
Some of our wetlands systems are no longer working naturally because human activity has changed the way water flows in or out of them. Wetlands are threatened by earthworks, draining, water extraction, climate change, poor agricultural practices, feral animals such as cane toads. Invasive plants and uncontrolled fires. A damaged wetland can become a healthy system again with careful rehabilitation. However, once a wetland is drained or built on, it may not be possible to restore it to its natural state.

Wetland ecosystems are of importance to Indigenous people as wetland plant and animal species are used by Indigenous people for food, medicine, fibre and tools. Wetlands can also be significant for cultural activities, as story places or as seasonal indicators. Many wetlands also have cultural and historic significance for non-Indigenous people.

[www.environment.gov.au/wetlands](http://www.environment.gov.au/wetlands)

Australia currently has 64 wetlands that have been recognised as internationally important under the Ramsar Convention (Ramsar, Iran was where the convention was signed on 2/2/1971). The Ramsar Convention aims to halt the worldwide loss of wetlands and to conserve, through wise use and management, those that remain. [www.ramsar.org](http://www.ramsar.org)

Article from pamphlet—Australia's amazing wetlands Dept of SEWP&C





# Yea Sustainability Community Day

Supported by RACV and 2030Yea

Join us for a day celebrating sustainability and supporting Yea to build a sustainable future and thriving community.

Bring the family along and enjoy a free BBQ, fun games and entertainment. Learn about solar, electric vehicles, renewable energy, recycling and environmental initiatives from organisations focused on sustainability.

## Outdoor cinema!

Powered by RACV Solar

Bring a blanket and snacks for a special family screening of 'The Lorax'.

📍 Yea Showgrounds and Recreation Reserve, 20 Snodgrass St, Yea

🕒 Sunday 27 February 2022 | 2pm – 6pm

\*Movie starts at approx. 3:30pm



## NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER NEEDED

The Highlands Hall Committee is looking for a new member to take the position of treasurer. Book keeping skills are not needed. Experience using an Excel spread sheet is all that's really required. Adding up is probably a plus :-)

We hold a meeting every 6 weeks that is never longer than 2 hours. We're trying to make them fun!!

It's a great way to be involved with the local community and we all know that volunteering is good for your sense of wellbeing so come and join us.

Contact Gayle 0418 889017 or Miranda 0408 969261 if you'd like to know more.

## HIGHLANDS HALL WORKING BEE SATURDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2022 9am onwards

Yea Arts is holding an event at Highlands on the 27<sup>th</sup> Feb so we need the hall looking its best.

With all this rain and heat everything is growing madly, including the weeds.



We have all the usual jobs, inside and out and it would be terrific if you could just give us an hour of your time to share the load. Come at whatever time suits you.

Remember we all have to be double vaccinated and follow all the rules of mask wearing and social distancing.

Many thanks, Miranda (0408 969261)

## Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority

Applications by Australian farmers are now invited for **Round 2 of the Carbon + Biodiversity Pilot**. Successful applicants will receive payment for plantings that deliver biodiversity and carbon abatement. **Closing date—3rd March 2022**. For more information visit - <https://www.awe.gov.au/.../carbon-biodiversity-pilot...>

## February is Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month

Every year 1,600 women are diagnosed with this disease and 1,070 women die from OC.



Unlike breast & cervical cancers there is NO early detection test, so the best way of detecting the disease is to know the signs -

- \* Abdominal bloating or increased abdominal size
- \* Urinary changes such as frequency or urgency
- \* Appetite loss, feeling full quickly or indigestion

Having a family history of breast or ovarian cancer may mean that you are at a higher risk of developing OC.

Like to know more? [www.ovariancancer.net.au](http://www.ovariancancer.net.au)

## Clean Up Australia Day

It's on again the annual Clean Up Australia Day events on

**Sunday 6th March**

**Why not** get your family or friends, your colleagues or your fellow classmates together and register to host a clean up event!

Clean Up Australia will provide you with a Clean Up kit containing gloves and bags and other resources, with packs for individuals, families or groups available.

For more information and to register or donate visit [cleanup.org.au](http://cleanup.org.au) or give your local Council a call.

One local Clean Up event is happening at the **Yea Wetlands commencing at 10am on Sunday 6th March**. If you would like to participate in this worthwhile and fun activity contact

**Peter 0422 217904**



## Master Tree Grower UPPER GOULBURN

### Expressions of Interest 2022

Home Creek / Spring Creek Landcare group and the Murrindindi Climate Network are inviting you to participate in the upcoming Master Tree Grower program. This is an amazing opportunity to increase your knowledge and apply it to your farm.

The course will be delivered by local and national leaders in tree growing on farms. Generally these sessions will run from 10am to 3pm and we will be travelling to interesting locations in the Upper Goulburn area each week. We will email attendees the specific times and locations of each venue a few days prior to each session. This 8-day course concludes with a study tour to the Otways to meet members of the Australian Agroforestry Foundation and their established tree farms.

#### PROGRAM

Day 1	Saturday	March 12	Intro to Master Tree Grower
Day 2	Sunday	March 13	Growing for the Market
Day 3	Sunday	March 20	Tree Measurement
Day 4	Saturday	March 26	Silviculture
Day 5	Saturday	April 2	Farm density and biodiversity
Day 6	Sunday	April 10	Planning issue, carbon offsets
Day 7	Saturday	May 7	Otways Study Tour
Day 8	Sunday	May 8	Otways Study Tour

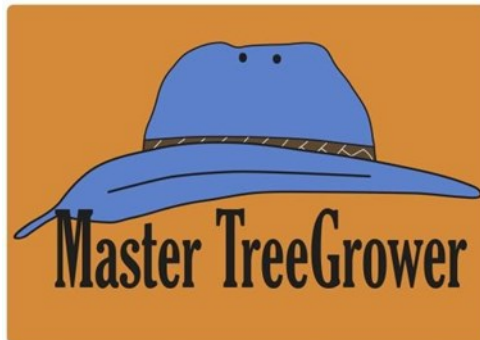


Expression of Interest emailed to

Rita Seethaler at [rita.seethaler@tuti.com.au](mailto:rita.seethaler@tuti.com.au) by February 25th.

Please include — Your name, phone number, property location. Do you have any trees? YES / NO Why do you want to do the course? Do you have any native vegetation.

**YOUR COMMITMENT** - Attend the full 8 days of training and travel to amazing properties in the Upper Goulburn and in the Otway Ranges. Cost = \$250 plus GST (excluding travel to & accommodation in the Otways)



This project is supported by the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program and the Murrindindi Shire





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